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## Senate

(Legislative day of Wednesday, July 23, 2008)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable KEN SALAZAR, a Senator from the State of Colorado.

### PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by guest Chaplain Rev. Willie C. Barnes from Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Eatonville, FL.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O Lord our God, how excellent is thy Name in all the Earth.

We come today to give You thanks for Your excellent greatness throughout this country, the United States of America. We acknowledge You, O God, for Your wonderful attributes of omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence.

As we assemble in this august body, it is our prayer that You restore Your blessings upon the Commander in Chief of these United States, President George W. Bush. Give him wisdom to execute the many responsibilities he is confronted with for the sake and safety of this Nation. Bless his family with health and prosperity.

Then, Lord, for this branch of Government, the Senate, it is our prayer that each Member of this great body may be gifted with the acumen to make decisions that will reflect the principles and morals of this great Nation. For every dilemma, please provide the answer through these men and women You have ordained to satisfy the needs of the millions of people they represent. As this Senate debates the issues at hand, let every voice that desires to be heard speak with clarity, with honesty, and profoundness in such a way that the democratic process of this Government be made with peace from every representative.

We ask that You would bless the men and women of the armed services who serve this country so bravely. Bless their families and loved ones with comfort.

We pray this day that Your guidance will revive, restore, and refresh in these arduous times; that the towns and cities and States of our country may give help and the hope so needed today. There is an answer, O God, from You. We need You for reasoning for families, for businesses, for schools, and faith-based institutions, that the future prosperity of the United States may be well even to the benefit of the needs of this world.

Please forgive us for erroneous infringements that have resulted in ill will toward our families and neighbors alike. Help us, dear God, to appreciate You for our daily necessities, and help us to realize that our sufficiency comes only through You.

Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory throughout the world without end.

In the Name of God the father, God the son, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable KEN SALAZAR led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, July 24, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable KEN SALAZAR, a Senator from the State of Colorado, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. SALAZAR thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3186, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

I ask unanimous consent that following leader time, the time until 10:30 be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. As previously agreed to, the time from 10:30 until 5:30 will be equally divided and controlled by the leaders in 30-minute alternating blocks, with the majority controlling the first 30 minutes and the Republicans controlling the next 30 minutes.

As a reminder to all Senators, there will be a moment of silence at 3:40 p.m. today in remembrance of Officers Gibson and Chestnut. They were murdered

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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